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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/341,101	08/18/1999	LARS ERICSSON	185/054	4745

7590

05/08/2003

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EXAMINER

HERNANDEZ, OLGA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3661

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/341,101

Applicant(s)

ERICSSON ET AL.

Examiner

Olga Hernandez

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19,21-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 12.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 14, 28, 29 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gudat et al (WO 95/28524).

As per claims 1 and 14, Gudat discloses:

A position determining apparatus comprising (figure 2):

- at least one detector equipment placed generally at a designated place on the machine spaced away from the working part of the tool, the position determining apparatus configured to provide data that corresponds to the position and orientation of the designated place on the machine in a fixed coordinate system (figure 4);
- at least one position relationship device configured to determine a positional relationship of the working part of the tool relative to the designated place on the machine in a machine-based coordinate system (page 28, lines 32-35);
- a calculating device operatively configured to provide at least one of the position and the orientation of the working part of the tool in the fixed coordinate system based upon the position and orientation of the

designated place on the machine in a fixed coordinate system and the positional relationship of the working part of the tool relative to the designated place on the machine in the machine-based coordinate system (figure 7e).

As per claims 28 and 31, Gudat discloses the claimed by the applicant (figures 1-5).

As per claim 29, it has been held that the recitation that an element is "**adapted to**" perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 6 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Diekhans (6,073,070).

As per claims 3, 6 and 19, Gudat does not teach the position-determining apparatus further comprises a stationary measuring station placed in the vicinity of the machine, the stationary measuring station operatively configured to determine the position of the machine in cooperation with the detector equipment; and the at least one detector equipment comprises at least two detector units placed at the designated place on the machine arranged in fixed positions relative to the machine, the at least two detectors arranged to cooperate with the stationary

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measuring station to give the orientation in space for the designated place on the machine.

However, Diekhans teaches it in figure 7. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to optimize the operation of the vehicle.

Claims 2, 4, 7, 15, 27 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Ford (6,211,821).

As per claims 2, 4, 7, 15, 27 and 30, Gudat does not teach the north-seeking/target unit. However, Ford teaches it in column 1, line 20. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system

Claims 5, 8, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Johnson (5,606,444).

As per claims 5, 8, 18 and 20, Gudat does not teach the optical unit aligns itself towards the stationary measuring station with help. However, Johnson teaches it in column 2, lines 5-15. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system. Further, it has been held that the recitation that an element is "**adapted to**" perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. It does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense. *In re Hutchison*, 69 USPQ 138.

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Claims 9 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Schupfner (6,374,190).

As per claims 9 and 22, Gudat does not teach how to calculate the angular position relative to the map. However, Schupfner teaches it in column 1, lines 17-25. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Johnson (5,606,444), further in view of Ford (6,211,821).

As per claim 21, neither, Gudat nor Johnson teaches the north-seeking/target unit. However, Ford teaches it in column 1, line 20. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system.

Claims 10 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Ethridge (5,798,733).

As per claims 10 and 23, Gudat does not teach the accurate device that at time intervals measure the actual position of the vehicle. However, Ethridge teaches it in column 2, lines 17-23. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system.

Claims 11 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Ethridge (5,798,733), further in view of Vanderwerf (5,774,832).

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As per claims 11 and 24, neither Gudat nor Ethridge teaches how to calculate the vehicle acceleration and how to integrate the acceleration. However, Vanderwerf teaches it in column 1, lines 10-16. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance system.

Claims 12 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudat et al (WO 95/28524) in view of Ethridge (5,798,733), further in view of Yamada et al (5,974,675).

As per claims 12 and 25, neither Gudat nor Ethridge teaches what is stated by the applicant. However, Yamada teaches it in the abstract. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the aforementioned inventions in order to enhance the system.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

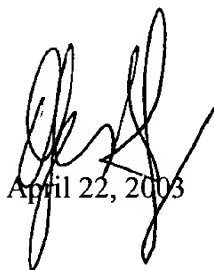
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Olga Hernandez whose telephone number is (703) 305-0918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William A. Cuchlinski can be reached on (703) 308-3873. The fax phone numbers

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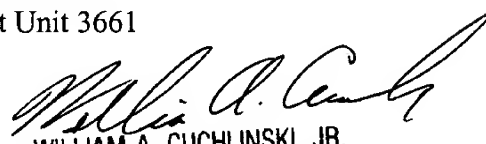
for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



April 22, 2003

Olga Hernandez
Examiner
Art Unit 3661



WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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